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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Washington, DC) – *This afternoon's ruling regarding Arizona's S.B. 1070 on the basis of federal preemption will prevent certain aspects of the law from going into effect at midnight tonight. The following is a statement by Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez (D-IL), Chairman of the Taskforce on Immigration of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the principal author of the Comprehensive Immigration Reform for America's Security and Prosperity Act ([CIR-ASAP or H.R. 4321](#)), which has more than 100 Democratic co-sponsors in the House.*

I am pleased that the judge ruled to block the most egregious parts of the Arizona law. Arresting people based on their appearance and holding them until you can investigate their immigration status is patently un-American and unconstitutional.

The federal government should set and enforce a uniform, national immigration law and this will help head off the rush to having 50 state laws and hundreds of county and municipal laws.

The lawsuit is part of the federal government asserting its preeminence, and the Obama Administration is absolutely right to sue Arizona and any other state that makes the same mistake. But the next step is just as important: the federal government should reform the laws so that there are clear rules that immigrants, employers, state and local governments and everyone else can actually follow.

The Democrats have a plan on the table to end illegal immigration and establish the rule of law and so far, not one Republican in either the Senate or the House is doing anything to help. We need the President, the Speaker of the House, the Majority Leader in the Senate and the whole Democratic Party to call their bluff and move legislation forward. We will see who is really for legal immigration, law and order, and a national system to regulate, not scapegoat, immigrants and immigration. The President should call us all together tomorrow so we can respond with a clear federal solution to put before both Houses of Congress immediately. That is the proper response to Arizona's law and the lawsuit.

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